Shortcomings in implementation of Family Planning Programmes in States

1844. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortcomings in the implementation of various family planning programmes at the State level have come to the notice of the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what steps have been taken by Government to make various family planning programmes more effective at the State level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Implementation of family welfare programme by the States is constantly appraised, major problem areas identified and appropriate strategies adopted. The strategies adopted include promoting greater community participation at all levels; increasing demand for contraception through improved communication approaches; expansion and quality improvement of out-reach services; intensification of population education activiteis; improved programme management; reorganisation and streamlining of delivery system; launching universal immunization programme to enhance child survival; starting a campaign for increasing the age of marriage; optimising utilisation of infrastructure, staff and services, etc.

Universal immunisation programme

1845. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Universal Immunisation Programme has been launched by Government;

(b) whether some Districts of Orissa have been included in this programme; and

(c) if not, by when the scheme is likely to be extended to Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Two Districts of Orissa namely Puri and Cuttack, have been included in this programme during 1985-86.

Plea for opening of an open University in Maharashtra

1846. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal to the U.G.C. for the setting up an open university in that State; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra has referred a proposal to establish an Open University in the State to the UGC alongwith the project report. The Commission has agreed in principle to the proposal and has advised the State Government that while enacting the Legislation they should keep the provisions of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act as well as the provisions of the UGC Act, in view.

Modernisation of Railway during Seventh Plan

1847. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds proposed to be allocated to Railways during the Seventh Five Year Plan for modernisation of the Railway System and procurement of more wagons and other rolling stock;

(b) whether some financial assistance is also being sought from the World Bank for the above purpose; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI